

**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Rhode Island State Pilotage Commission
Department of Environmental Management
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908**

**Proposed Minutes of the Rhode Island State Pilotage Commission
Meeting**

235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI

Held on December 7, 2006

Members in attendance:

Michael Scanlon, Chair

Captain E. Howard McVay, Jr., Member

Larry Mouradjian, Member

Member(s) excused from attendance:

Captain J. Peter Fritz, Member

Others in attendance:

Gary Powers, Legal Counsel to the Commission

Virginia MacCoy, Recording Secretary

Quorum being present, the Chair called the Meeting to order at approximately 10:13 a.m. The Minutes of the November 2, 2006 meeting were approved by assent.

Under old business:

1. Regarding Captain Kenneth H. Warner and the grounding of the M/V Mantenha, legal counsel, Gary Powers, received a call from Attorney William Hewig, who is representing Captain Kenneth H. Warner, about changing the letter of reprimand to a letter of warning.

a. After discussion the Commission agreed to let the reprimand stand.

i. Attorney Powers will communicate to Attorney Hewig the decision of the Commission today and will advise Attorney Hewig that he and Captain Warner have until tomorrow to request a hearing.

New Business:

1. Chairman Scanlon stated that he had received some telephone correspondence from Commissioner McVay about complaints from the pilots regarding the condition of M/V Gdansk.

a. Commissioner McVay reported that he took a ride on the M/V Gdansk and that action has been taken regarding some of its deficiencies.

ii. However, another issue has come up. When there is known problems with a vessel and the problems have not been resolved, how can a pilot take the risk of piloting such a vessel?

1. It is up to the discretion of each pilot to decide if a vessel is safe enough to pilot.

2. The Chair suggested that when the Commission receives a letter from a pilot listing problems with a particular vessel that as a Commission we need to send a letter to the Coast Guard Captain of the Port stating that we have received reports of problems with the

following vessel. The Commission should list the problems and request the captain of the port to address the problems either by requesting an escort tug or for repairs be made before the vessel is allowed in the port.

3. The Commission agreed and Chairman Scanlon will draft a letter and forward to the members of the Commission for their approval.

2. Commissioner McVay updated the Commission on the following pilot:

a. Captain Clint Walker is wrapping up his probationary license. Commissioner Mouradjian made a motion and Commissioner McVey seconded the motion to upgrade Captain Walker to a full branch license.

The motion passed unanimously.

3. Thomas Walker, a Connecticut state licensed pilot, who is dispatched out of the Block Island pilot division of the Northeast Pilot office has requested a letter from Commissioner McVay relative to having a pilot boat in Rhode Island waters. Captain Walker plans on keeping this boat in Jerusalem. Commissioner McVay advised Captain Walker that a number of requirements must be satisfied in order to permit one to qualify as a pilot and Commissioner McVay offered to provide the Captain with these requirements.

4. The Commission approved four or five years ago two surveyors,

Dick Miner and Tony Knowles. Dick Miner has taken a job with Seaboats and feels he can no longer do work for the Commission as he thinks it is a conflict of interest.

A motion was made and accepted to adjourn the meeting at 11:04 am.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The Commission plans to hold its next regularly scheduled meeting in the Conference Room of the Division of Law Enforcement at DEM Headquarters located at 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI on January 4, 2007 starting at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia MacCoy, Recording Secretary